

## **Adult Short Term Training**

### **Title: Farm Business Management Programs**

The Farm Business Management (FBM) program is a three-year curriculum to assist farm families to develop the management skills necessary to analyze their business enterprises and operate a profitable business.

The program meets seven hours per week for 15-16 weeks beginning in early November. Some students take the program for credit toward a postsecondary technical certificate. Some programs are expanding the resources and delivery of the FBM program through the development of on-line coursework and distance learning technology to connect to remote communities. All programs collaborate with the Farm Service Agency (FSA), an agricultural lender to farmers and ranchers. The programs report enrollment of FSA borrowers and progress in the curriculum to that agency.

Since 1983, farm families (unit) and not individuals are enrolled in the program. The State Division of Professional-Technical Education is committed through common consent with the state advisory committee to operate under the premise that a farm unit consisting of a single individual will be enrolled at the same fee as a farm unit consisting of multiple individuals. The state advisory committee for the Farm Business Management program agreed to set the enrollment fee at \$200.00 per farm unit. To preserve the reduced fees for farm families and assist programs to maintain viability, beginning in 2002 flexibility was granted to institutions to modify the fee schedule to balance these two objectives.

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Approved: July 1, 2005